

December 4, 2006

Present: Ms. Gae Elfenbein
Mr. John Goerlach
Mr. Richard Walsh
Mr. Paul Boudreau, Town Administrator

The meeting was opened by Ms. Elfenbein at 7:00 p.m.

Warrants: Warrants Signed

Tax Classification Hearing opened by Ms. Elfenbein; Tax Assessor, Glen Bean, presented information to the Board so that they can decide how they will set the tax rate. Mr. Bean explained the limits set by Proposition 2 1/2 and by the Department of Revenue. Mr. Bean proposes a \$15.56 tax rate, as this will give the Town approximately \$147,000 more in free cash for next year, if we only spend what is already budgeted. Motion made by Mr. Walsh to go with a tax rate \$15.56 with a single tax rate for commercial and residential property owners, seconded by Mr. Goerlach. Unanimously voted.

TAX
CLASSIFICATION
HEARING

Motion made by Mr. Goerlach to accept the minutes of the November 27, 2006 meeting as amended seconded by Mr. Walsh. Unanimously voted.

ACCEPTED
MINUTES

Administrator's Report

The Board questioned the phone bills for the Fire Department; Mr. Boudreau explained that the Town is being doubled billed because the Fire Department changed to Verizon so that they could get DSL but Richmond Networx has not taken the numbers from their bill. He will check out what is being done to stop the double billing. Mr. Boudreau also reported that he is meeting with the Chambers Group tomorrow regarding the possibility of lowering the cost of the phone bills.

TELEPHONE
BILLS

Mr. Boudreau reported that the Town received 2 checks from Roy Hoyt in payment of back taxes and for demolition and clean up of his property on Hollow Road in total amount of \$16,000.

HOYT
PROPERTY

Mr. Boudreau reported that he received notice from Homeland Security stating that the grant for the Fire Department has been approved. There

HOMELAND
SECURITY
GRANT MONEY

were 2 bids received for the ventilation system
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needed at the fire house. Air Cleaning Systems, Inc. submitted a bid in the amount of \$76,656 and Aire-Deb Corporation submitted a bid in the amount of \$52,508. The Fire Department is recommending that the bid be awarded to Air Cleaning Systems, Inc. because the bid received from Deb Corporation does not meet all the specifications. Mr. Boudreau also recommended that the town go with Air Cleaning Systems of Latham, New York in the amount of \$76,656. Mr. Walsh asked for something in writing from the Fire Department stating the specifications that were not met in the lower bid, before the Board will award the contract.

HOMELAND
SECURITY
GRANT MONEY
CONT'D

Mr. Boudreau presented the Board with a copy of an opinion letter received from Brackett and Lucas for their review before the Wednesday, December 6 meeting with the Water District and the Sewer Commission.

OPINION
LETTER
SEWER
AGREEMENT

Mr. Boudreau presented the Board with another purchase and sale agreement extending the closing date on the Spring property to January, 2007. The Town will need to get a survey done. Mr. Boudreau has already contacted Pat McColgan to do it. Mr. Boudreau recommended paying for the survey from the Law Account.

SPRING
PROPERTY

Mr. Boudreau received a call from Richard Haupt about the inspections regarding the liquor license the only premises that is not in compliance is Lanesborough Pizza.

INSPECTIONS

Mr. Boudreau reported that he spoke with Melanson Heath who is doing the school audit. The whole thing is in review and it should be wrapped up very soon.

NEW SCHOOL
AUDIT

Mr. Boudreau spoke with K.C. Westwood regarding the change of the host for the web site the new outfit is govoffice.com. If we want to switch it will cost \$1,300 which will be paid from Town Hall expenses. Motion made by Mr. Goerlach to cancel the Virtual Town Hall web sit contract and to except the one from govoffice.com, seconded by Mr. Walsh. Unanimously voted.

NEW WEB SITE

Mr. Boudreau requested the Board go into executive session for the purposes of discussing collective bargaining. Motion made by Mr. Walsh to go into executive session for the purpose of discussing collective bargaining and to reconvene to open session, seconded by Mr. Goerlach. Mr. Walsh, yes; Mr. Goerlach, yes; Ms. Elfenbein, yes.

EXECUTIVE
SESSION

End Administrator's Report

Mail

Citizen Participation Form received from Aimee Thayer requesting appointment as alternate to the Agricultural Commission. Motion made by Mr. Goerlach to appoint Aimee Thayer as an alternate to the Agricultural Commission for a 1-year term, seconded by Mr. Walsh. Unanimously voted.

AGRICULTURAL
COMMISSION

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission meeting notice. Meeting to be held December 6, 2006 at 3:30 p.m.

BRPC

Received a curb cut request from Berkshire National Resources. Motion made by Mr. Goerlach to grant a curb cut to Berkshire National Resources at 28 Bridge Street with the stipulation that they allow the Town to install a culvert in the road where the existing water bar is and another culvert under the curb cut request and the 2 would be tied together and drain the road surface water into a swale on their property, seconded by Mr. Walsh. Unanimously voted.

CURB CUT

Received a letter from Mark Seigors regarding a sewer connection and requesting a meeting with the Sewer Commission, Town Counsel and the Selectmen. Attorney Seigors also requests that the meeting be held in the offices of Town Counsel. Mr. Boudreau reported that he spoke with Town Counsel about the letter and they are in the process of preparing a response.

SEWER
CONNECTION

Old Business

Ms. Elfenbein stated that she would like to get back to the contract negotiations with the

TREASURER/
COLLECTOR'S

Treasurer/Collector. Mr. Goerlach asked why property
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CONTRACT

that is in tax title has not been put up for sale yet.
Mr. Boudreau explained that the Treasurer/Collector
is waiting to have several parcels so that they can
all be done at once.

TREASURER/
COLLECTOR'S
CONTRACT
CONT'D

Ms. Elfenbein asked if it could be added in
the personnel policies that vacations not be
taken at times that they are needed for Town
business; like for town meetings and tax time.

PERSONNEL
POLICIES

Mr. Goerlach said that Mr. Evangelisto is coming
up to his 3 months is also most up and he said
that he was told that once he got his hoisters
license he would go up a step in pay. Motion
made by Mr. w that effective December 11 that
Mr. Evangelisto's pay be increased to \$15.00 per
hour, seconded by Mr. Goerlach. Unanimously voted.

HIGHWAY
DEPARTMENT
LABOROR

Mr. Goerlach asked if the letters went out for
Mr. Mierzejewski. Mr. Boudreau said he will send
them tomorrow.

MIERZEJEWSKI

New Business

Ms. Elfenbein said that since the storm caused
some problems she asked if Mr. Decelles and Chief
Bashara could get some figures together about
overtime costs.

STORM

Mr. Goerlach moved from the Selectmen's desk to
make a request as a private citizen. Mr. Goerlach
is putting in an access road for the installation
of a septic system on property on Bridge Street
does he need to put in a curb cut permit request.
The Board said no as long as he returns the site
to its original condition.

ACCESS ROAD

Motion made by Mr. Walsh to adjourn the meeting,
seconded by Mr. Goerlach, Unanimously voted.
Meeting adjourned at 9:35 p. m.

MEETING
ADJOURNED